

Serial Number 09/828,182

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of original claim 2, and claim 6 has been amended to include the limitations of original claim 8. Claims 2 and 8 were indicated as allowable in item 8 on page 6 of the Official Action.

The rejections of claims 1, 6, and 7 under 35 USC §§102 and 103 have been rendered moot by the respective incorporation of the subject matter of claims 2 and 8 into independent claims 1 and 6.

The drawings have been amended to include the label (Prior Art), as required in item 2 on page 2 of the Official Action.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Urcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

By: BENJAMIN E. URCIA
Registration No. 33,805

Date: July 13, 2004

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500

N:\BIS\Produce\ben\Pending 1...PLM\0828182a01.wpd

ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART) added

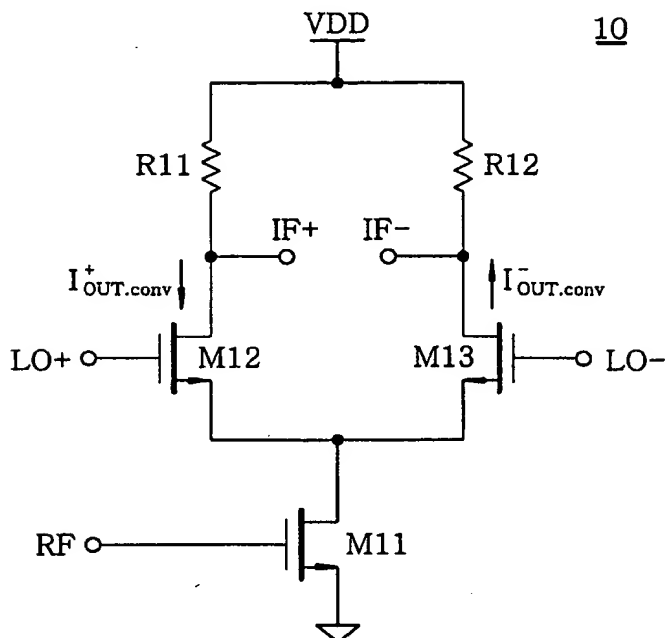
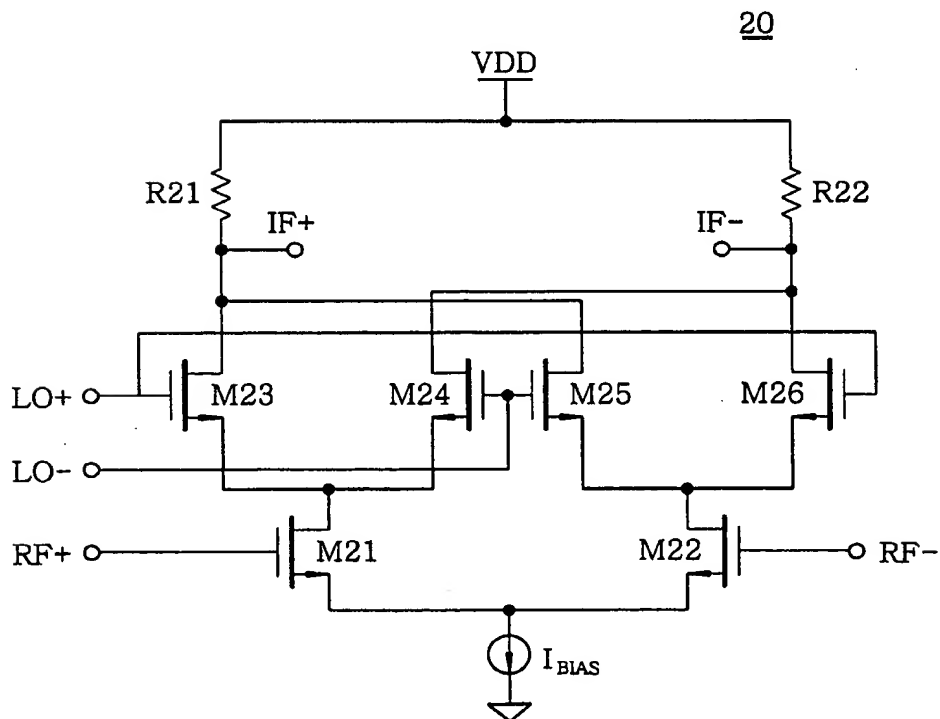


FIG. 2
(PRIOR ART) added





ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

FIG. 3
(PRIOR ART) *added*

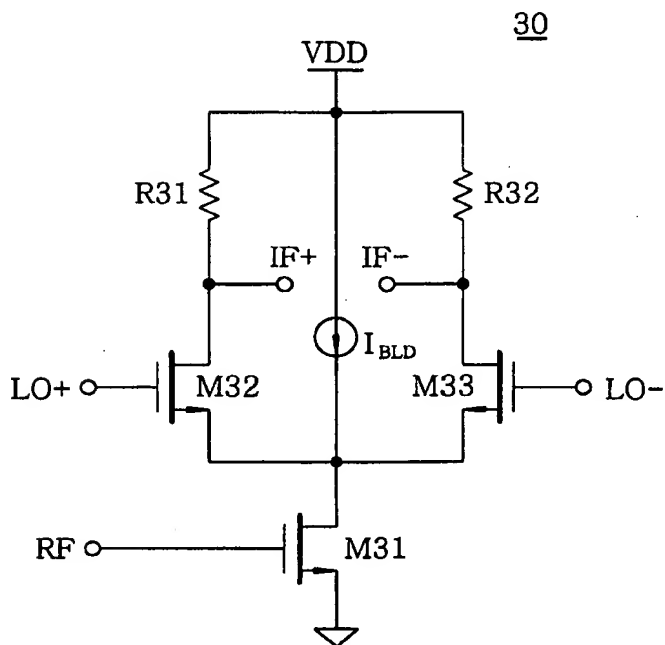


FIG. 4
(PRIOR ART) *added*

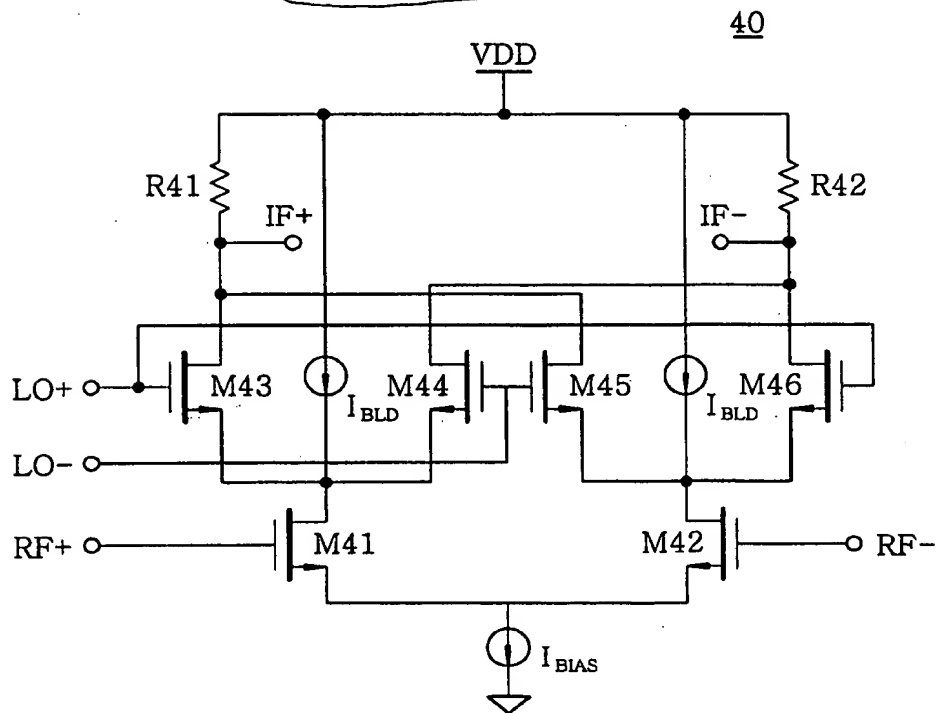


FIG. 5
(PRIOR ART) ^{added}

60

